

Remarks

The Examiner found that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species in Figures 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, respectively, because they disclose different types of prognostic cells having different configurations and components. The Examiner has required applicant to identify a particular species and a list of all claims readable thereon.

Applicant has identified the following claims as specifically directed to the different prognostic cells. Claims 33-35 and 52-56 are directed to the TDDB cell shown in Figure 9. Claims 27-29 and 48-51 are directed to the ESD cell shown in Figure 10. Claims 30 and 57-59 are directed to the field oxide leakage cell of Figure 12. Claims 31 and 32 are directed to the threshold voltage shift cell of Figure 13. Claims 36-38 are direct to the hot carrier cell of Figure 14. Claim 39 is directed to the metal migration cell of Figure 15. Claims 45-47 are directed to an oversampled prognostics cell, which could be any of the six specific cells, of Figure 16.

Claims 1-26 and 40-44 are directed to a generic prognostic cell depicted in Figures 2-8 and read on any of the species of prognostic cells.

Applicant elects the species directed to the threshold voltage shift prognostic cell of Figure 13 represented in claims 31-32 and claims 1-26 and 40-44 readable thereon.

Applicant makes this election with traverse. The oversampled prognostic cell shown in Figure 16 is a configuration of any one of the species of prognostic cells to include a plurality of test devices and provide multiple readout capability, and thus is generic to all species. Applicant requests that the restriction requirement

directed to Figure 16 and claims 45-47 be withdrawn. Applicant also respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the restriction of claims 30 and 57-59 directed to the field oxide leakage cell shown in Figure 12.

Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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